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Practitioner's Docket No.: 961_006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Michael W. LaCourt, James David Shaw, Michael Avdenko,
Lee William David and Dale Robert Ryan

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JAN 29 2002

Ser. No.: 09/910,399

Art Unit: 1743

IC 1700

Filed: July 20, 2001

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: AUXILIARY SAMPLE SUPPLY FOR A CLINICAL ANALYZER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
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addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington D.C. 20231, on January 9, 2002.

Susanne C. Aregano
Susanne C. Aregano

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§1.97, 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. §1.104(a) and §1.105 concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

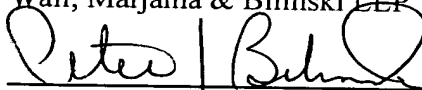
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

Wall, Marjama & Bilinski LLP



Peter J. Bilinski

Reg. No. 35,067

January 9, 2002

Date

PJB/sca

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Customer No.:

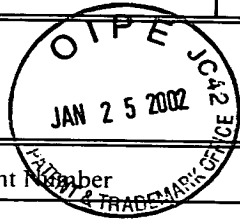


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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Form PTO 1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Atty Docket No. 961_006	RECEIVED JAN 29 2002 16:1743 1700
	Applicant Michael W. LaCourt et al.	
	Filing Date July 20, 2001	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
AA	4,353,868	Oct. 12, 1982	Joslin et al.			
AB	4,847,050	July 11, 1989	Jenkins et al.			
AC	4,903,708	Feb. 27, 1990	Saint-Amand			
AD	5,221,311	June 22, 1993	Rising et al.			
AE	5,254,312	Oct. 19, 1993	Staebler et al.			
AF	5,364,598	Nov. 15, 1994	Oxley			
AG	5,415,839	May 16, 1995	Zaun et al.			
AH	5,645,801	July 8, 1997	Bouma et al.			
AI	5,658,723	Aug. 19, 1997	Oberhardt			
AJ	5,807,522	Sep. 15, 1998	Brown et al.			
AK	5,958,341	Sep. 28, 1999	Chu			
AL	6,068,978	May 30, 2000	Zaun et al.			
AM	6,086,824	July 11, 2000	Fanning et al.			
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AQ	6,197,494	March 6, 2001	Oberhardt			

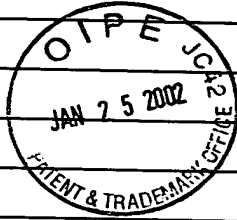
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
AR	WO9220778	Nov. 26, 1992	WO				

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages Etc.)

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Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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